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NUMBER OF CLEAR DAYS AND TOTAL RAINFALL IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE MONTHS OF MAY AND JUNE, AT THE LICK OBSERVATORY, IN THE YEARS 1881 TO 1894.

The cloudy weather which just ended on the night of June 6 was remarkable, being continuously unfavorable for observing for eight days, with rain every day.

There is no record in previous years of so few clear days at this season, as will be seen by the following comparison, which is based upon the meteorological classification into clear, fair and cloudy, a clear day being one on which the cloudiness of three observations at 7 A. M., 2 P. M., and 9 P. M., is less than 10 on a scale in which 30 would be entire cloudiness for all three observations.

	NUMBER OF CLEAR DAYS.				RAINFALL.	
	MAY 1-10.	MAY 11-20.	MAY 21-31.	JUNE 1-6.	MAY.	JUNE 1-6.
1881..	7	9	8	5	.09	....
1882..	9	9	8	4	.48	....
1883..	1	3	10	6	7.55	....
1884..	10	6	6	4	1.24	....
1885..	8	5	11	6	0.16	....
1889..	3	5	11	5	3.21	....
1890..	5	10	8	6	2.42	....
1891..	7	7	5	5	1.01	0.13
1892..	0	9	11	6	3.52	....
1893..	5	6	11	6	.95	....
1894..	10	2	4	0	2.78	0.43

C. D. P.

LICK OBSERVATORY, June 7, 1894.

THE LOWE OBSERVATORY, ECHO MOUNTAIN, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CAL.; DR. LEWIS SWIFT, DIRECTOR.

During the year 1893 financial difficulties made it necessary for Mr. WARNER, the patron and founder of the WARNER Observatory of Rochester, N. Y., to withdraw his support from that institution, in which Dr. LEWIS SWIFT had done so much work. The instruments of the observatory belonged to Dr. SWIFT himself, and for some time it was expected that arrange-

ments might be made to install them at the State University of Colorado (Boulder City). In the early part of the present year (1894) it was decided by Dr. SWIFT to accept a proposition made to him by Professor T. C. LOWE of Pasadena, Cal., and to move his instruments—including the 16-inch CLARK Equatorial formerly at Rochester—to Echo Mountain, near Pasadena, a site some 3500 feet above the sea, and some 2 miles distant from WILSON'S Peak, where the Harvard College Observatory formerly maintained an observatory station. It is understood that Dr. SWIFT'S present station is at the terminus of Professor LOWE'S electric railway, not far from a fine hotel. The establishment of this new observatory is an important event in the astronomical history of California.

E. S. H.

SLIGHT EARTHQUAKE SHOCK, MAY 7, 1894.

On Monday, May 7, I had the unusual experience of detecting a movement of the Earth by the meridian circle, a movement which was too slight, probably, to be recorded by any seismograph, however delicate. This was followed, at an interval of an hour and five minutes, by an actual earthquake shock on the mountain. Whether the first can be considered as the premonitory signal of a movement of greater force to follow, or whether it was simply the outer edge of a shock which occurred at some distance, with no necessary connection with our actual local occurrence later on, can be left to future discussion. The chance of catching these slight movements is not great.

The nadir observation, for the level of the meridian circle, was in progress, and had to be suspended while the movement lasted. The instrument was apparently swaying regularly and with a slow, even swing in the east and west direction, the only motion noticeable.

It must have been the mountain in oscillation, a movement not sensible, probably, by any other means. Mounted on a high step-ladder, I could detect nothing of it myself.

This movement lasted for 15 to 20 seconds, and was of several seconds of arc in extent. The unexpectedness of the occurrence made it puzzling at the time, and I was more concerned to see that nothing was wrong with the instrument, than in making such measures as might have given more exact data had I known the meaning of the movement. The clock face was not illumi-